Under the provisions of sections 9A & 9B of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 Government has been authorised to take measures against dumping of materials in Indian markets and aslo levy anti-dumping duties if such imports cause material injury to any domestic industry in India.

Export of Steel

4159. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) what steps Government is taking to give a fillip to the export of steel ;

(b) whether it is generally being felt that Government levies like excise, sales tax, octroi, steel development fund, cess, engineering goods export fund etc. are making the Indian steel uncompetitive in the international market ; and

(c) whether it is desirable that the relief on above levies is very essential to boost up exports to earn much needed foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Export of all items of iron and steel is now freely allowed. Liberalisation of trade policy provisions. including the provisions for duty free import of raw materials for export, convertibility of the rupee on trade and current account, etc. have helped to achieve a quantum jump in export of pig iron and steel, from 3.87 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 283 crores in 1991-92 to 22.28 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 1688 crores in 1993-94 (provisional).

(b) and (c) Levies and taxes such as the excise duty, sales tax, engineering goods export assistance fund levy. etc. are not payable on exports of steel if prescribed procedures are followed.

Production of Steel by Rourkela Steel Plant

4160. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rourkela Steel Plant is the largest producer of special grade steel in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) whether modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant has led to a quantum jump in its special grade steel production; and

(d) if so, the details of expenditure incurred on the modernisation and the details of increase production in this plant during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) is one of the largest producers of special grade steel in the country.

(b) The plant produces the following special grade steel :

(i) Plates Ship Building Quality Boiler Quality, DIN 52.3, IS 961, IS 2062, Wheels, etc.

(ii) HR COILS Ship Building Quality, Boiler Quality stainless steel, MC, DD, EDD, etc. Thinner Gauges 2.5 mm and below.

(iii) CR Products D/DD/EDD Tinner gauges below 0.63 mm and below 0.5 mm and below.

(iv) GP/GC sheets.

(v) Electrolytic tin plates.

(vi) HR and CR dynamo sheets.

(vii) CRNO/CRGO steel for electrical industries.

(viii) Electrical Resistance welded pipes; API and commercial grades.

(ix) Spiral welded pipes; API and commercial grades.

The percentage of special grade steel in total saleable steel for last four years has been as follows :

Year	Total saleable steel production ('000T)	Percentage of special grade steel on total saleable steel
1990-91	1087	39%
1991-92	1125	37%
1992-93	1179	41%
1993-94	1130	38%

(c) The modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant is under implementation. The increase in special steel production envisaged after scheduled completion of modernisation project in December, 1995, is expected to be around 50%.

(d) The expenditure incurred in RSP modernisation project in the last two years i.e. 1992-93 and 1993-94 is Rs. 350.88 crores and Rs. 438.72 crores (provisional) respeciavely. RSP has been maintaining an increased trend in production of saleable steel as indicated in reply to part (b) of the answer barring the year 1993-94 when its production was affected due to flooding caused by unprecedented heavy rains in August, 1993.

Transfer of shares to employees by SAIL

4161. SYED SEBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited propose to transfer the Company's shares to its employees at a premium;

(b) if so, the details thereof with background for such a move;

(c) whether transfer of shares to all employees of SAIL will be on equitable basis;